



MINUTES

Meeting of the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
of the
SANTA BARBARA METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT
A Public Agency

Tuesday, March 29, 2005
8:30 AM

Santa Barbara MTD Auditorium
550 Olive Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

John Britton, Chair, Olivia Rodriguez, Vice Chair, Brian Fahnestock, Secretary,
David Davis, Director

DIRECTOR NOT PRESENT:

Logan Green, Director

MTD EMPLOYEES PRESENT:

Sherrie Fisher, General Manager, Tiara Lakey, Executive Assistant to the Board and General Manager, Jerry Estrada, Assistant General Manager/Controller, David Damiano, Manager of Transit Development and Community Relations, Nick Di Napoli, Graphic Design, Steve Maas, Manager of Strategic Planning and Compliance, Gary Johns, Manager of Operations, Carl Flores, Supervisor, Kathryn Barragan, Driver, Jack Graham, Frank Reynoso, Driver, Sharon Simkins, Driver

OTHERS PRESENT:

No members of the public were present.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Britton called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

2. ROLL CALL OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair Britton noted that all members were present, with the exception of Director Green, who would not be present at today's meeting.

3. REPORT REGARDING POSTING OF AGENDA

The General Manager reported that the agenda for this meeting was posted at the MTD administrative headquarters, on the MTD website and mailed to the media of general circulation.

CONSENT CALENDAR

4. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES

Director Fahnestock moved to waive the reading of and approve the minutes for the Board meeting of March 2, 2005. Director Davis seconded the motion. Vice Chair Rodriguez abstained, due to her absence from that meeting. The motion passed.

Director Fahnestock moved to waive the reading of and approve the minutes for the Board meeting of March 18, 2005. Vice Chair Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. CASH REPORT

Director Fahnestock moved to approve the cash report from March 8, 2005, through March 21, 2005. Director Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

THIS CONCLUDED THE CONSENT CALENDAR

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present.

7. PASS NOMENCLATURE

The Board discussed the possible change of nomenclature of the passes for persons with disabilities. During the discussion the Board reviewed a staff report that contained a listing of all printed material used by MTD, which contain the word/s “disabled” or “persons with disabilities”. The report also included the estimated costs associated with implementing these changes. The General Manager noted that any changes to passes would still require the word/s “disabled” or “persons with disability” somewhere on the passes or all members of the public would also want to ride at the reduced fare. The General Manager added that MTD is required to specify “elderly” and “persons with disabilities” on priority seating signs. Staff at MTD and Santa Barbara Work Training Program will continue to work together on this project. Other local organizations and members of the community will also be invited to assist in the naming of any new passes.

8. AGREEMENT FOR THE DISPOSAL OF HAZARDOUS AND NON-HAZARDOUS WASTE AT CALLE REAL SITE

The General Manager and Jerry Estrada, Assistant General Manager/Controller reviewed staff recommendations for the disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste at Calle Real site with the Board. The General Manager then requested the Board's authorization for her to enter into an agreement with Onyx Environmental Services, per the specifications of the 05-01 RFP. After some discussion, Director Fahnestock moved to authorize the General Manager's request. Director Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. AGREEMENT FOR THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS ADMINISTRATION

The General Manager and Steve Maas, Manager of Strategic Planning and Compliance reviewed staff award recommendations for workers' compensation claims administrative services. The General Manager then requested the Board's authorization for her to enter into an agreement with Workers' Compensation Administrators, LLC (WCA). Director Fahnestock moved to authorize the General

Manager's request. Vice Chair Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

PLEASE NOTE- At this time the Board celebrated a ceremonial item.

The General Manager introduced the following MTD employees, Carl Flores, Supervisor, Kathryn Barragan, Driver, Jack Graham, Driver and Frank Reynoso, Driver. The General Manager announced that all of these employees had recently celebrated their 30 year anniversaries as MTD employees. Each expressed thanks to their fellow employees and the Board. Chair Britton presented Mr. Flores, Ms. Barragan, Mr. Graham and Mr. Reynoso with a token of appreciation and thanked them all for their dedication and service to the community. Vice Chair Rodriguez expressed her heartfelt appreciation and thanked them for the wonderful and safe service that they provide each day.

10. MTD BOARD OF DIRECTOR COMMITTEES

The Board reviewed and discussed the current Board Committees, which included staff's recommendation to form a Development (Marketing & Planning) Committee. After discussion and review of the Board members individual committee preferences (Director Green's were received via e-mail and taken into consideration), the Board Committee Roster reflects the following changes, additions and an opening:

External Affairs	Brian Fahnestock	David Davis
Electric/Technology	John Britton	Logan Green
Finance/Audit	John Britton	Brian Fahnestock
Facilities	Olivia Rodriguez	David Davis
Human Resources	John Britton	Olivia Rodriguez
Development (Marketing & Planning)	Logan Green	-Open-

11. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

The General Manager provided information regarding meetings compensation for MTD Board of Directors. A brief discussion followed and it was noted that this topic may be discussed again.

The Board was provided with a draft agenda for the upcoming April 15, 2005, workshop. The General Manager reviewed the proposed topics and format for the workshop with the Board and invited them to add to the agenda. Topics included on the agenda are long-range planning and performance standards through December 2004. It was noted that MTD Quarterly Reports would be presented at an upcoming Board meeting.

David Damiano, Manager of Transit Development and Community Relations presented the Board with an overview of the Perception Study that he will present to the Downtown Parking Committee. Mr. Damiano reported that this study was conducted to identify the public's general awareness of MTD and its services. Later Director Davis asked if Harley Augustino of Pueblo had commented at any of the recent meetings of the Downtown Parking Committee. Director Davis added that Mr. Augustino had expressed an interest in attending one of their meetings to seek funding for the MTD. The General Manager stated that she did not believe that Mr. Augustino had formally approached the Downtown Parking Committee yet, but she is aware of other meetings he has attended. At these meetings he has made informal comments regarding funding for MTD. The General Manager also noted that Mr. Augustino has requested information from MTD pertaining to overloads, funding, service and a wish list.

The General Manager and Mr. Damiano updated the Board on the Valley Express service. The daily ridership average is just under 60 passengers per day. Mondays and Fridays are currently the poorest performing days and Wednesdays are reported as being the highest. The General Manager noted that Raytheon employees make up a large portion of the commuters and many of these riders have Mondays or Fridays off. The marketing department continues to conduct site visits and outreach to potential passengers and their employers.

The General Manager updated the Board on the ongoing issues that MTD is experiencing with the EBUS electric bus fleet. These issues are directly linked with their SAFT, Ni-cad batteries. Although, MTD staff continues to correspond with EBUS regarding these failing batteries, she feels it has become necessary to contact SAFT directly. The General Manager then requested the Board's approval to bring in the technical expertise of Paul Griffith to assist MTD in these meetings. Mr. Griffith has offered his assistance, at no cost, due to his commitment to the electric vehicle project at MTD. After some discussion regarding past and possible future relationships with Mr. Griffith, the Board approved of his assistance as long as it posed no potential conflict.

12. OTHER BUSINESS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Director Fahnestock reported that as temporary appointee of the External Affairs Committee, he had recently met with Roger Horton, Councilmember Santa Barbara City Council to introduce the idea of bus-rail. Director Fahnestock stated that Mr. Horton provided him with some helpful suggestions for researching the feasibility of this idea, which included Director Fahnestock meeting with a bus manufacturer to discuss the details associated with building this type of vehicle. Director Fahnestock requested the Board's approval to meet with Gillig Bus Corporation, acting on behalf of the External Affairs Committee. The Board agreed and Mr. Estrada offered to assist in the arrangements.

10:35 AM- THE BOARD ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION

13. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION-CLAIM REVIEW (MARYLINA MOBLEY)

The Board met in closed session pursuant to Government Code §54956.9, conference with legal counsel (Anticipated Litigation) to discuss significant exposure of litigation between: Marylina Mobley vs. MTD. No action was taken.

14. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION-CALLE REAL

The Board met in closed session pursuant to Government Code §54956.8, conference with real property negotiators regarding the MTD Calle Real Property, APN's Book 59, Page 14, Parcels 4, 5 & 6, and Book 67, Page 23, Parcel 6, concerning price and terms of payment; agency negotiators Doug Large and Bob Andrews; other negotiation parties: Housing Authority of County of Santa Barbara, Martin Farrell Homes, and Investec Capital, Inc. No action was taken.

11:08 AM- THE BOARD RETURNED FROM CLOSED SESSION

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 AM.